

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

**BOARD OF REGISTRATION
OF NURSES**

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 1933

DIVISION OF REGISTRATION
DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL SERVICE AND REGISTRATION



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BOARD OF REGISTRATION OF NURSES

BOARD OF REGISTRATION OF NURSES,
STATE HOUSE, NOVEMBER 30, 1933.

To MICHAEL ZACK, *Director of Registration.*

SIR:—The Board of Registration of Nurses respectfully submits its annual report for the year ending November 30, 1933.

The number of nurses registered under examination this year is 1,476. The number registered without examination this year is 53.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR

Expenditures

Salaries of Members of the Board	\$1,960.00	
General Expenses of the Department	2,077.56	
Traveling Expenses	236.73	
		\$4,274.29

Receipts

1,581 examination fees @ \$5	\$7,905.00	
53 reciprocity fees @ \$5	265.00	
Fees for certified statements	190.25	
Fees for renewals @ 50 cents each	7,201.50	
		\$15,561.75

Since the establishment of the Board in 1910, the fees received from applicants for registration and renewals, and paid into the Treasury of the Commonwealth, amount to \$205,965.77. The expenditures of the Board amount to \$87,289.01. In dollars and cents, therefore, the Commonwealth has received in excess of the total amount expended the sum of \$118,676.76.

The following tabulation shows the examinations for the year 1933:

Date	Number Examined	Number Registered	Number Rejected
January	475	429	46
April	539	390	149
June	235	167	68
October	532	490	42
Total	1,781	1,476	305

The following shows the record of registrations granted through interstate endorsement of State Licensure and gives the State in which applicant has been granted registration:

Arkansas 1; Colorado 1; Connecticut 8; Illinois 2; Iowa 1; Kansas 1; Maine 1; Maryland 1; Michigan 2; Nebraska 1; New Jersey 3; New York 13; Ohio 1; Pennsylvania 5; Quebec 1; Rhode Island 10; Wisconsin 1.

In accordance with the vote of the Board the designation "With Honor," formerly added to the passing of the examination above a certain mark, has been omitted.

There has been little change in the condition of professional nursing in the Commonwealth in the past year. Several training schools have closed, on account of the expense, and the place of pupil nurses has been taken by graduate nurses (of whom it is claimed there is a surplus), and attendants. The ultimate results of this change cannot yet be determined. There is a growing

realization that in the training of nurses the quantitative relations between demand and supply should receive more attention. It seems likely that the part played by the well trained nurse in a civilized community will continue to increase. In fact the nurse has come to be regarded as one of the civilizing agencies of our time. There is urgent need for better preparation and equipment of the individuals who are to do this work. There is also the need for nursing care in the case of persons not acutely ill, or not needing the care of the highly trained nurse, and often not able to pay for a highly trained nurse. Adequate provision in this field is not yet made.

No further changes have been made in the qualifications required for admission to approved schools of nursing, or for instructors in such schools. These are as follows: For admission to the training school, beginning September 1, 1934, the requirements are graduation from high school, including credits for one unit in United States History and Civics; two units of natural science (general science, physics, chemistry, biology, physiology); two units of mathematics (commercial arithmetic, bookkeeping, algebra, geometry); three units of English.

For the training schools themselves the following standards of competence of instruction have been set: superintendents of nurses, full-time instructors, and special department heads must all be high school graduates and nurses registered in Massachusetts. They must also give evidence of reasonable fitness for the position to be held, a regulation which is somewhat elastic on account of difficulties which may be expected to arise in special cases, until the present transition period is passed.

The difficulty of re-registration of nurses promptly can be met only by additional clerical assistance about the first of the calendar year, when the re-registration occurs. The machinery of re-registration has been simplified as much as possible compatible with the adequacy of record required.

The proposal to secure an assistant to the Board in visiting training schools and securing adequate information as a basis for justly giving or withholding approval has been favorably received by the department having to do with appropriations, so that it is hoped that favorable action toward this end will be taken during the coming session of the Legislature.

On February 13, 1933, Josephine E. Thurlow was reappointed as a member of the Board.

Respectfully submitted,

JOSEPHINE E. THURLOW, R. N., *Chairman.*

STEPHEN RUSHMORE, M. D., *Secretary.*

BLANCHE A. BLACKMAN, R. N.

STELLA GOOSTRAY, R. N.

WILLIAM A. BRYAN, M. D.